

possible because our brave soldiers were willing to defend it. I leave you now with an powerful poem on the subject of our brave soldiers and veterans from the great American poet Walt Whitman:

DIRGE FOR TWO VETERANS

The last sunbeam
Lightly falls from the finish'd Sabbath,
On the pavement here, and there beyond it is
looking,
Down a new-made double grave.
Lo, the moon ascending,
Up from the east the silvery round moon,
Beautiful over the house-tops, ghastly, phan-
tom moon,
Immense and silent moon.
I see a sad procession,
And I hear the sound of coming full-key'd
bugles,
All the channels of the city streets they're
flooding,
As with voices and with tears.
I hear the great drums pounding,
And the small drums steady whirring,
And every blow of the great convulsive
drums,
Strikes me through and through.
For the son is brought with the father,
In the foremost ranks of the fierce assault
they fell,
Two veterans son and father dropt together,
And the double grave awaits them.
Now nearer blow the bugles,
And the drums strike more convulsive,
And the daylight o'er the pavement quite
has faded,
And the strong dead-march enwraps me.
In the eastern sky up-buoying,
The sorrowful vast phantom moves
illumin'd,
'Tis some mother's large transparent face,
In heaven brighter growing.
O strong dead-march you please me!
O moon immense with your silvery face you
soothe me!
O my soldiers twain! O my veterans passing
to burial!
What I have I also give you.
The moon gives you light,
And the bugles and the drums give you
music,
And my heart, O my soldiers, my veterans,
My heart gives you love.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BURTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of Memorial Day and to honor three fallen soldiers from the Fifth District of Indiana who so bravely sacrificed their own lives in Iraq so that Iraqi citizens may one day share in the same freedoms as citizens of our great Nation.

America collectively grieves at the loss of her sons and daughters, but we cannot fully appreciate the enormity of the losses their family and friends have suffered. All we can do is remember that the price of our liberty bears an enormous cost. I am reminded of the words of General George S. Patton, who commanded the U.S. Third Army in the Second World War: "We should not mourn these brave men, but rather thank God that such men lived." It is the determination and willing-

ness of these young men and women to defend our Nation that safeguards all our freedom. We should not and will not soon forget our sons' and daughters' heroic service.

Private First Class Deryk Lyell Hallal (Marine Corps; April 7, 2004), Private First Class Christopher E. Hudson (Army; March 21, 2004), and Sergeant Jarrod W. Black (Army; December 12, 2003) from the Fifth District of Indiana will forever be remembered in the hearts and minds of their family and friends. These three soldiers gave their lives helping free an enslaved people while protecting the world from the scourge of terrorism. We are grateful that there are men like these who are willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for our great Nation. Memorial Day will forever serve as a reminder of their sacrifices as well as all of the past, present, and future heroes who have fought and will so bravely fight to protect our Nation.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, in times of great sorrow and confusion I often turn to the Bible for comfort and guidance.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 teaches us, "For everything there is a season, And a time for every matter under heaven . . . A time to be born, and a time to die; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; A time for war, and a time for peace."

I hope and pray that soon we will see a time for peace around the world. Brave men and women answered their country's call for duty and paid the ultimate sacrifice. They died as heroes in honorable service to our country, and words inadequately convey our sorrow.

Across Washington State, 13 families grieve over the loss of loved ones in Iraq and Afghanistan. On behalf of the nation, the House of Representatives paused recently for a moment of silence to recognize and honor our fallen heroes.

We can honor our soldiers by remembering their names and reflecting on their contributions to our lives and to our communities. Join me in honoring these brave men and women.

Second Lieutenant Benjamin J. Colgan, 30, from Kent; First Lieutenant Michael R. Adams, 24, from Seattle; Staff Sergeant Cody Prosser, 28, whose mother lives in Seattle; Specialist Jacob R. Herring, 21, from Kirkland; Specialist Jeffrey R. Shaver, 26, from Maple Valley; Lance Corporal Cedric E. Burns, 22, from Vancouver; Specialist Justin W. Hebert, of Arlington; Private First Class Duane E. Longstreth, 19, of Tacoma; Private First Class Kerry D. Scott, 21, of Mount Vernon; Specialist Robert T. Benson, 20, of Spokane; Sergeant Jay A. Blessing, 23, of Tacoma; Sergeant Curt E. Jordan, Jr., of Green Acres; and, Staff Sergeant Christopher Bunda, 29.

America is richer because of their service. America is poorer because of their loss.

The Gospel of John 14:27, offers comfort in the words of Jesus, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Kim Bigley who was recently killed in Kosovo.

Kim Bigley was an employee of DynCorp International which was serving with the United Nations as international police officers. Kim and other members were fired upon by a Jordanian police officer for unknown reason and she and two others were killed in the resulting firefight.

Kim Bigley was a 47-year-old who lived most of her life in southern and Southwestern Illinois. She was the former warden of the Shawnee Correctional Center, and had just completed her first day of job orientation when she was killed. She is survived by her parents, Jim and Janice Bigley of Greenfield; sons, Casey Morrow of Springfield and Quinn Morrow of Decatur; daughter, Karly Morrow of Paducah; and a brother, Joe Bigley of Sherman. My thoughts and prayers go out to her families and loved ones. Ms. Bigley gave her life in an effort to improve the lives of others. This sacrifice should never be forgotten.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to dedicated soldiers, marines and citizens from my district that paid the ultimate price while serving our country.

Next weekend, our Nation will commemorate Memorial Day. All too often we forget the purposes of our special days we set aside to celebrate. Memorial Day is much more than a three-day weekend that marks the beginning of summer. This day, originally known as Decoration Day, has a long history dating back to the Civil War, commemorating the sacrifices of our armed forces. During this Memorial Day it is fitting that we make a special effort to honor and acknowledge those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defending our freedom and the freedom of others in Afghanistan and Iraq.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to the family and friends who are mourning the loss of Private First Class Chad Bales, Private First Class Ricky Morris, Specialist Robert Arsiaga, Specialist Israel Garza, Corporal Daniel Amaya, and Private First Class Clayton Henson. These gentlemen served our country with courage and dignity. There is no greater valor than sacrifice in the name of freedom.

I pray for the safe return of all of our servicemen and women and thank them for the sacrifice they make every day defending our country.